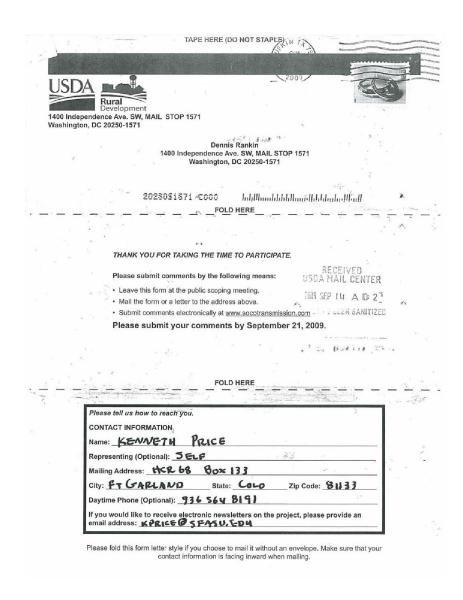
Public Scoping Comment Form We need your input. Please take a few minutes to provide your comments or questions for the USDA RUS Federal review process and return your completed comment form today or mail by September 21, 2009. Thank you. Which meeting did you attend? GARDNER Please check the following issues that are important to you for transmission line siting. Project Purpose and Need Historic and Cultural Sites Visual / Aesthetic Resources Radio or Television Interference Proximity to Residences Noise ■ Land Use (Agriculture, Residential, Recreation) Health and Safety Water Resources (Floodplains, River Crossings) ■ Biological Resources If you own property in one of the proposed corridors, please indicate all the existing uses of your property below: Agriculture Residential Conservation Easement Commercial Industrial Other: Please provide your comments on the proposed project in the space provided below: SEE ATTACHMENT



31 August 2009

Dennis Rankin 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Mail Stop 1571 Washington, DC 20250-1571

> RE: USDA RUS Federal Review SLV Calumet Comanche Trans, Proj.

I-324-001

I-324-002

I-324-003

The proposed interconnect for the transmission of electrical power by aerial wire entails a serious degradation of the environment where it transits the mountainous areas along Route 160. This technology, dating from the 19th century, is seriously out-of-step with modern requirements of efficiency and protection of the environment. It requires yet another easement to be constructed through fragile wildlife habitat, to the great detriment of wildlife and the scenic values that are in desperate need of protection. This "solution" to the problem of providing an adequate power distribution network is economically viable only when wildlife protection and scenic values are evaluated as being worth nothing in dollar terms. Given their true value to this and future generations, aerial wire power distribution is expensive indeed.

- To mitigate the effects of constructing another right-of-way, the electrical conductors should be put underground on the existing right-of-way of Route 160:
- To mitigate electrical losses inherent in alternating current distribution systems, direct current should be used.
- To ease expansion costs, extra conductor channels should be incorporated
 in the underground structure, as your literature shows. These might also be shared with
 other utilities, such as, communication wires or fiber optic cables. In any event, the
 marginal costs associated with expansion are minimized.

DC transmission systems are already in use in this country, but not to the extent used in some foreign countries.

We should upgrade our electrical transmission systems just as we have our other electrical and electronic systems.

Kumah H Prie

I-324-001: Environmental Consequences (In Review)

Your email/letter/comment form has been received and your comment noted. Potential environmental consequences and mitigation measures from the proposed project will be addressed in the Environmental Impact Statement.

The Environmental Impact Statement is anticipated to be completed in late 2010 and will be available at http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/ea.htm.

I-324-002: Socioeconomic Resources (In Review)

Your email/letter/comment form has been received and your comment noted. Potential impacts to social and economic resources from the proposed project and mitigation measures will be addressed in the Environmental Impact Statement.

The Environmental Impact Statement is anticipated to be completed in late 2010 and will be available at

http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/ea.htm.

I-324-003: Project Alternatives (In Review)

Your email/letter/comment from has been received and your comment noted. A range of reasonable project alternatives and mitigation measures including the no action alternative will be addressed in the Environmental Impact Statement.

The Environmental Impact Statement is anticipated to be completed in late 2010 and will be available at

http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/ea.htm.